The late 19th and early 20th centuries witnessed a mass emigration of Jews from Eastern Europe fleeing from pogroms waged against them in Russia. This oppression caused many to seek refuge in America, searching for better economic opportunities and freedom from persecution. As early immigrants sent word back to family members, more Eastern European Jews made the journey to the new country, finding comfort in family networks that provided a familiar ethnic and cultural landscape.

While many Jewish immigrants were attracted to urban centers like Baltimore, others were drawn to rural towns and villages to pursue mercantile opportunities. Peddlers or drummers traveled rural backroads selling their wares from door to door. Others established small stores in remote crossroad communities. Jews living in isolated rural areas needed to travel to urban centers to nurture a sense of community through family networks and to maintain strong ties to their religious and cultural roots.

**Solomons Island**

On Solomons Island, a succession of Jewish shopkeepers operated out of one establishment that the island’s old-timers referred to as the “Jew store.” Depending upon the proprietor, the storehouse served as a butcher shop, grocery, dry goods store, or general merchandise store. The store was first located in an old building on the corner of Charles and Williams Streets on Solomons Island. The one-story building had originally housed the tin shop of Isaac Solomon’s cannery. In 1903, a portion of it became a storehouse and was rented by a series of shopkeepers until it was replaced by a two-story building in the mid-1920s.

**Goldstein’s Store**

Goodman “Gus” Goldstein was the first Jewish immigrant to operate a store in the old Solomon tin shop building. Today, he is better known as the founder of the Prince Frederick Department Store and the father of longtime Maryland Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein. But in 1894, Goldstein was a 14-year-old Latvian who immigrated to Baltimore to visit his eldest brother. Goldstein, who entered the country as Gus Karp, first came to Calvert County by steamboat as a peddler to sell wares from door to door. It is unclear how or why he assumed a peddler’s license in the name of Goldstein.

Goldstein possessed a keen entrepreneurial sense and developed a good rapport with his customers who recognized him as a friendly, honest, and hardworking young man. In February 1903, he leased the old shoemaker’s shop near the courthouse where he opened a butcher shop. Two years later, he moved his butchering business to Solomons Island. There, he found a ready market for...
FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Sherrod Sturrock

Myles Horton was an educator and social activist who co-founded the Highlander Research and Education Center in the mountains of Tennessee. In his autobiography, *The Long Haul*, Horton talks about creating “Islands of Decency” in education and in communities. That phrase has stuck with me ever since I first encountered it over 40 years ago. I have embraced the concept in my work with museums and that is what we strive to do here at CMM. We create an island of decency where everyone is welcome, where ideas are freely expressed, where we can discuss differing points of view civilly and productively, and where people can learn through participation and discovery. This extends not only to our visitors, but to our community, our volunteers, and our employees. In a sense, all are “customers,” citizens on our island. We practice exceptional ‘customer service’ with thoughtful intention. The goal is to make everyone feel valued, appreciated, wanted, and cared for.

The Calvert Marine Museum has always been part of the community. It was born from the community’s desire to preserve a vanishing heritage. Our recent community outreach efforts included offering a talk in May by Dr. Rita R. Colwell, a recognized expert on *Vibrio vulniificus*, a flesh eating bacteria found in the Chesapeake Bay; hosting the Tri-County Council’s annual Job Fair on June 20; and participating in a Community Conversation about the opioid epidemic in Calvert County sponsored by the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Inc. (CAASA), Calvert County Sheriff’s Office, and Calvert County Behavioral Health Services.

Being at the heart of our community means proactively responding to community needs, recognizing opportunities, and creating benefits. Our Waterside Music Series concerts have provided top quality entertainment right here in Southern Maryland for over 30 years. Our annual free events — the Solomons Maritime Festival and Patuxent River Appreciation Days — are celebrations that all can embrace and enjoy. First Free Fridays invite the community to see the museum, take free boat rides, and listen to local music. We are constantly seeking new ways to welcome the community through our doors.

Tracing Jewish Merchants on Solomons Island (Continued from page 1)

fresh meat among the local residents as well as the many vessels that visited Solomons harbor. In April 1905, the local newspaper reported that Goldstein purchased a large refrigerator in Baltimore and had it shipped to his Solomons Island butcher shop to keep his meats fresh during warm weather. In June, he enlarged his shop and combined it with a green grocery and a complete line of canned goods, fruits, and confections.

In January 1906, Goldstein’s newspaper advertisement stated that he had enlarged his store in Solomons and added to his stock. The ad boasted “everything at a bargain” and listed a large and diverse line of goods. However, a few months later, Goldstein decided to return to the county seat to open a store in the storehouse formerly occupied by D. Friedman. Later named the Prince Frederick Department Store, in its heyday it was the largest store in the county.

U.S. Marine Hospital Service’s Third Class Relief Station at Solomons Island in 1903. The right hand portion of the structure was later leased by Gus Goldstein who opened a butcher shop and store (P-7475).
Shacks’ and Jacobs’ Store

In August 1906, the newspaper reported that the store vacated by Goldstein in Solomons was stocked and open for business by Mssrs. Shacks and Jacobs. By January 1907, Oscar Shacks had left the partnership and Harris Jacobs advertised his Solomons store in the local newspaper.

Harris Jacobs offered a large line of dry goods, ready-made clothing, shoes, and boots in his store. The 1910 census described the 36-year-old Jacobs as a retail merchant who had emigrated from Russia in 1902. His family had emigrated in 1904 from Birzai, a town in northeastern Lithuania near the border with Latvia. During the four years Jacobs operated his dry goods store on Solomons Island, the family traveled to Baltimore to celebrate the Jewish holidays. In April 1911, Jacobs sold his store stock and moved his family to Baltimore where he opened a shoe store.

Perman’s Store

Max Perman succeeded Harris Jacobs in business at Solomons. In addition to dry goods, shoes, and boots, Perman also stocked notions and “fine groceries.” Perman had emigrated from Lithuania in 1906 and arrived in Solomons in May 1911 with his bride, the former Miss Sadie Levine. In September of both 1911 and 1912, the local newspaper made mention that the Permans had traveled to Baltimore to celebrate the Jewish New Year. In November 1913, the newspaper reported Max Perman’s sister, Slova Becker, and her three sons had arrived from Russia and moved in with the Permans. As the family settled into their new surroundings, the two older sons were enrolled in the Solomons three-room school. A newspaper article states that although the children were unable to speak English when they arrived, they “had progressed admirably.”

At the time of emigration from Russia, Slova Becker was aged 28 and her sons, Sidney, Henry, and Harris, were aged 8, 4, and 3, respectively. Slova’s husband, Augustus “Gus” Becker, had emigrated from Russia in 1911.

Becker’s Store

In April 1914, the newspaper reported that Gus Becker had bought the stock of goods from Max Perman and would succeed him in business. Calvert County records show that Slova Becker began holding a trader’s license in Solomons in May 1914.

Beginning in December 1915, the eastern end of the old tin shop building that housed Becker’s store was made into a garage for the newly formed West Shore Transit Company. The daily bus service provided an important transportation link between Solomons and Annapolis where it connected with the Annapolis Short Line railroad to Baltimore.

The newspaper reported in January 1918 that Gus Becker was selling his store stock and planning to move his family to Baltimore and engage in business there. In February, the newspaper printed a “Closing Out Sale!” advertisement that stated that the Beckers were “positively going out of business.” However, Slova Becker renewed her trader’s license in May 1918 and continued in business in Solomons with her husband through 1924.

After a decade of successfully operating the store at Solomons, the Beckers moved to Baltimore. According to Gus and Slova Becker’s granddaughter, Shelley Becker Zipper, the family wanted to give their children greater access to higher educational opportunities than were available in Calvert County.

By 1924, the old Solomons tin shop building was nearly sixty years old and had been used as a storehouse for two decades. Clarence Davis, the owner of the old building, had it torn down after Gus and Slova Becker closed their store and constructed a two-story building on the site that was designed as a storehouse.

In May 1925, Hyman and Sam Becker, trading as Becker & Brother, purchased a trader’s license and set up shop in the new storehouse at Solomons. Sam, also known as “Sol,” and Hyman, or “Hymie,” were Gus Becker’s younger brothers. Hyman soon left the partnership and, beginning in 1926, only Sam Becker’s name appears on the trader’s license.

The Harris and Edna Jacobs family, ca. 1920s. (courtesy, Cyrile Smith and Abby Smith)
The 1927 edition of the Broadcaster, the self-published yearbook of Solomons School, contains an advertisement for “Sam Becker, Dealer in Gen. Mdse.” Store goods listed include dry goods, shoes, boots, groceries, and fruit. In addition, the store offered the services of a tailor, as well as clothes cleaning and pressing.

The new storehouse was a marked improvement over the old building that previous storekeepers had operated. According to Sam and Lillian Becker’s son, Earl David Becker, the new building had a large raised porch on its front façade that faced Charles Street. Merchandise was featured in two large front display windows. As one entered the front door, there were tables in the center of the room where toys and miscellaneous merchandise were displayed. Floor to ceiling shelves lined the walls. On the west side of the storeroom was the glass candy counter, ice cream freezer, cold soft drink case, and tobacco products. Across the room was a glass display case containing dry goods, sundries, and general merchandise. Along the back wall were wooden topped counters with a butcher block, cash register, counter for bagging groceries, a case featuring smoked meats and cheeses, a bulk cookie case with glass doors, and bins containing bulk items such as sugar, salt, and beans. Behind the back counter was a door leading to a stock room and in the corner of the storeroom was a staircase that led to the upstairs living quarters.

The Department of Commerce’s 1929 Census of Distribution provides a snapshot of Sam Becker’s business. Becker leased his storehouse for $12.00 per month. He was able to fill in many blanks. Shelley had inherited the title of family historian and provided a wealth of background information and photographs that she had collected from various family members. She also contacted cousins to glean more information about the Beckers and the Permans.

Eight years after contacting the museum, Gloria Keiper was supplied contact information for her uncle and cousins. She was anxious at the prospect of becoming acquainted with them and learning more about her grandparents and long-lost relatives. The Beckers, too, were excited to reach out to their cousin.

Continued on page 5
described his business as a general store and listed the principle goods that he sold as groceries, dry goods, and hardware. He estimated the replacement value of his inventoried stock at $2,000.00. His total annual net sales amounted to $11,200.00, comprising $11,000.00 cash sales and $200.00 credit sales.

In March 1933, Sam Becker entered into a lease agreement with the Atlantic Refining Company to sell petroleum products. Gasoline tanks and pumps were installed along the west side the storehouse adjacent to Williams Street. The three-year, renewable lease specified that Becker would pay one cent to the company for every gallon of product sold.

Newspaper accounts suggest the Beckers were active in the community. In January 1939, for instance, Lillian Becker hosted the Solomon's Home-Makers Club at her residence. During 1944 and 1945, both Lillian and her daughter Meriam were active volunteers at the Solomons U.S.O. Vernell Wilson recalls that the local girls attended the dances at the U.S.O. building just about every Saturday night. The U.S.O. sent a bus around the county to pick up and drop off the girls who had to be at least 14 years of age to attend the dance. Their mothers would act as chaperones and also supplied refreshments.

In September 1945, the local newspaper reported that Samuel Becker and family had moved to Baltimore where they planned to reside permanently. Earl David Becker recalls that his family moved to Baltimore in 1945 so that his 16-year-old sister could benefit from living in the city while being close to her family. Their older sister, Ruth, had fallen in love with and married Joseph Ambrose Vince, a member of the U.S. Army Air Corp. Her parents did not approve of their daughter marrying outside the Jewish faith and Vince was a Roman Catholic. As a consequence, they cut off all contact with Ruth.

Hyman, his wife Rocheal, and son Marvin returned to Solomons to operate the Becker store. As mentioned, Hyman Becker had lived in Calvert County before. In 1925, he had entered into a partnership with his brother Sam to run the Solomons store.

Hyman traveled to Latvia and Lithuania in 1931 to visit family. While visiting his sister in Latvia, he married his niece. He returned to America later that year and his wife joined him in 1932. They moved in with Sam Becker's family and advertised his tailoring business at Solomons in the local newspaper in 1932 and 1933. Their son Marvin was born in Prince Frederick in 1932 and it appears they moved away from Solomons around 1935.

Although Sam Becker was moderately successful in operating the store, Hyman did not do as well. Marvin Becker recalled that his parents “scratched out a living” at Solomons. Among the goods that were carried in the store were drygoods, canned goods, candy, cheese, and cold cuts. Rocheal performed most of the daily store operations and Hyman made some money doing tailoring work, including some for military officers assigned to the nearby navy bases. However, after just a couple of years, the Beckers decided to give up the store and move back to New York. Marvin Becker recalls they left Solomons in 1947. The county records confirm that Hyman Becker transferred his traders and cigarette licenses to Charles A. Gray in May 1947.

End of an era

Hyman Becker was the last Jewish immigrant to operate the Solomons business. After the Beckers left the area, Charles Gray, a native of Calvert County, reopened the store and operated it as Gray’s Food Store from 1947 to 1952. The property was purchased by the State of Maryland’s Center for Environmental Science in 2000 and is now part of the campus of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory. It has been fittingly named the “Becker House” in honor of the family who managed a store on the site from 1914 to 1947.

Acknowledgements

A variety of people provided information that contributed to this essay. The author wishes to thank Earl Becker, Gil Becker, Marvin Becker, Matt Calvin, Carter Gray, Vernelle Wilson Jenkins, Marcy Jacobs, Gloria Keiper, Abby Smith, and Cyrile Smith for sharing information and photographs. Special thanks are extended to Shelley Becker Zipper who was instrumental in contacting her relatives and sharing her family’s history and photographs.
As part of the making of a documentary by FRENCH CONNECTION FILMS on the extinct giant shark *Carcharocles megalodon*, I traveled to the fossil-rich country of Peru. Filming took place in the Natural History Museum in Lima (Figure 1) and out in the Peruvian desert (northern Atacama, Figure 2).

From about 18-2 million years ago, megalodon lived wherever there were oceans. Their teeth are found along Calvert Cliffs and in the Peruvian desert, but in Peru, megalodon shared its habitat with an extinct giant sperm whale known as *Leviathan melvillei* (Figure 3). Unlike the living sperm whale that feeds on soft-bodied giant squid, *Leviathan* hunted whales and other large-bodied marine vertebrates as did megalodon. Was *Leviathan* in direct competition with megalodon — did they prey upon each other? These are some of the questions that this documentary will attempt to answer.

In order to set the stage for this documentary about megalodon and three other extinct giants of the prehistoric world, I also traveled to the jungles of French Guiana (Figure 4). The invitation to participate in this remarkable project gave me the opportunity to visit places that I probably would never have seen otherwise. Visiting the Peruvian desert gave me a renewed appreciation for the richness of our local fossil resource preserved along Calvert Cliffs.

**Figure 1.** Stephen posing with the skeleton of an adult male sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) on the grounds of the Natural History Museum in Lima, Peru. (Photo by O. Lambert)

**Figure 2.** Stephen helps Peruvian paleontologist, Walter Aguirre Diaz, excavate a fossil dolphin skull from the vast barrenness of the northern Atacama. (Photo by C. Wright)

**Figure 3.** Tooth of the Peruvian giant raptorial sperm whale *Leviathan melvillei* (left) as compared to a large megalodon shark tooth. (Photo by S. Godfrey)

**Figure 4.** Stephen next to a Bloodwood Tree in a mangrove swamp in French Guiana. (Photo by C. Wright)
New staff:

Dawn Wood is the new Account Technician. Prior to taking this position, Dawn worked as the corporate secretary and office manager for a family-owned company, J.E. Wood & Sons. We are delighted to welcome her to fill this critical position in our business office.

Casey Murray, who joined the staff as the Estuarine Biology intern, has stepped up to the position of temporary Aquarist. She is a 2015 graduate of St. Mary’s College of Maryland with a bachelor’s in biology, and has just completed her master’s degree at the University of Miami in tropical marine ecology and conservation.

Cecily Hein is working with the Paleontology Department for her fourth year in a row. She has completed her first year in the graduate program at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, where she is pursuing a master’s degree in geology.

Rebecca Ratchford is a senior at UNC Wilmington majoring in geology with a minor in biology. She is currently working on a project on dolphin bone pathology and plans on a career in paleontology.

Annie Lowry is an intern with the Paleontology Department this summer. She is a rising junior at St. Mary’s College of Maryland, where she studies biology. Hailing from Arlington, Virginia, she developed an appreciation for fossils from a young age and is eager to learn more about them in a practical setting.

Sarah Fellerman, an intern with the Exhibits Department, is a rising senior at St. Mary’s College of Maryland with a double major in English and environmental studies. She is excited to be able to explore her love of art and museums as a medium for communication and education while interning at the museum this summer. Sarah hopes to translate her passion into a career that advocates for environmental conservation and rehabilitation.

Whitney Jefferson is an intern in the Development Department. She majors in music industry studies with a minor in arts administration at Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania. A resident of Lusby, she assists in research for pending projects and offers a fresh perspective to the concert series. “After interning here for a few months I want a career as a concert promoter!”

Victoria Lusk is an intern with the Estuarine Biology Department this summer. A resident of Mechanicville, Maryland, she has transferred from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where she studied civil engineering, to St. Mary’s College of Maryland. In the fall, Victoria will be pursuing majors in biology and environmental studies.

Madilyn Stanton, a rising sophomore at Coastal Carolina University, is majoring in marine science with minors in psychology and biology. “Maddi” spent her elementary and middle school years in St. Mary’s County and visited the Calvert Marine Museum as a youngster on several occasions. She is especially interested in water quality issues, habitat rehabilitation, and veterinary science and has experience working at the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

Catie Spaulding, an intern with the Patuxent Small Craft Guild, is a resident of Huntingtown, Maryland. A 2015 graduate of The Calverton School, Catie is a junior at Bates College at Lewiston, Maine, where she majors in psychology. This summer, she is overseeing weekend rowing and pedal boat activities at the museum’s boat basin.

Ashley Gleisner Ritchey, a resident of California, Maryland, is the Maritime History collections intern this summer. She studied anthropology and history at Salisbury University and has a master’s degree in public history from Louisiana Tech University. She is the former curator and assistant director of the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill, Maryland, where she worked in all areas of the museum, honing her skills in exhibit research, design, and fabrication, community outreach programs, collections work, and more.

Alyssa Suchter, a senior at Calvert High School, is the summer intern with the museum’s Finance Department. She is enrolled in the Academy of Finance and is a Calvert High Varsity Cheerleader.

Departing staff:

Jeannine Harris, Accountant, left to take a position with Avian, LLC, a contractor with NAS Patuxent River. She plans to be back to volunteer for concerts and help out with administrative office needs.

David Moyer, Curator of Estuarine Biology, left to take another position. In his five years with us, he made a significant contribution to our Estuarine Biology work, both in the River to Bay exhibit and in the community.

Meghan Neace is a graduate of Auburn University in organismal biology and St. Mary’s College of Maryland in fine arts. Previous work has focused on illustrating undescribed species for scientists at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, and working with scientists at the Auburn Natural History Museum in the fields of ecology and genetics.
On the evening of April 23, 2017, a fire severely damaged the historic Locust Inn in Solomons, one of the last surviving commercial buildings of the early 20th century. The Locust Inn catered to out-of-town visitors who arrived by steamboat and later by automobile. Located south of the Solomons United Methodist Church, the property is sandwiched between the Patuxent River on one side and “the Narrows,” on the other. It was purchased in 1886 by George W. Condiff and his wife Catherine, who built a two-story structure facing the river. It became a successful boarding house and a large addition was constructed in 1905. Only five years later, the Locust Inn underwent a major change, as revealed in the Calvert Gazette of May 14, 1910: “Mr. George Condiff is rebuilding his house and when completed will be three stories and contain twelve rooms. Mrs. Condiff is preparing to take summer boarders at which she has been successful for many summers.”

The house was rebuilt in the fashionable Italianate style, five bays in width with the central bay marked by a slightly projecting tower and main entry (see photo). The front door with its etched glass panels led into a central hall with stairs leading to the two upper floors. A wide front porch extended the full width of the house. Another addition was added to the back in the early 20th century. The business was named for two large black locust trees that were located in front of the building.

In 1913, the Locust Inn advertised in the Washington Evening Star “fine bathing, fishing and boating” with rooms at $6 and $7 a week. In the Baltimore Sun of September 12, 1914, Ferdinand Bernheimer wrote a glowing letter to the editor recounting a road trip he made to Solomons with a party of friends. “We stopped at the Locust Inn and though there were oil lamps there, we retired by candle light. We got plenty to eat, and well served, and the place — as every other house in Solomons seemed to be — was spotlessly clean.” Mr. Bernheimer then went on to say, “My room was on the second floor, overlooking the Patuxent River, not more than 150 feet away. From the rear window we could see the Chesapeake Bay. The fishing is good and everything necessary can be gotten at the stores on the island. For those needing actual rest, I hardly think there is any place in Maryland like this.” In June 1920, the inn was modernized, “being improved by installation of water works, gasoline engine and force pump system” (Calvert Journal, June 26, 1920).

Following George and Catherine Condiff’s deaths, the property was transferred to son William H. Condiff, who was also Solomons’ long serving postmaster (1914 – 1952). After his death in 1960, the property conveyed to his wife Marie. William’s brother, George W. Condiff Jr., a World War I veteran, and sister, Margaret, ran the business. Shortly after George’s death in 1967, the Locust Inn was sold out of the family to James Leslie and Edith Langley. They, in turn, were bought out by Pearl English in 1971. She and her partner, Robert Siemon, ran the Locust Inn as a rooming house until her death in 2009. Mr. Siemon operated the business for a few more years until the property was put up for sale. It was during Pearl English’s tenure in 1988 that the property was designated a Calvert County Historic District.

Over the years, the museum has acquired some furnishings from the Locust Inn including a rocking chair and a caned side chair in 1987. In 2010, the museum purchased a bedroom dresser with hinged mirror and bathroom washstand with towel rack. An unusual item, also from 2010, is a battered sterling silver presentation plate engraved “Solomons Island Yacht Club — Annual Regatta — Best Decorated Building — Presented by Dr. R.V. Truitt.” Dr. Truitt was the first director of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory and Commodore of the Yacht Club from 1941-45 and again in 1947.

With increasingly better roads and improved automobiles, the demand for boarding house type accommodation declined as visitors could just come to Solomons for the day. At some point, the outside of the building lost its decorative trim and older windows and unattractive aluminum siding was added, contributing to its later run down appearance. But the historic fabric of the 1910 building was still there, having outlived all its other contemporaries. The Locust Inn is a rare survivor from an earlier era when visitors came to isolated Calvert County to enjoy a week of fishing, boating, and good food, in peaceful and beautiful surroundings.
**Activities & Events**

**Solomons Maritime Festival**

Ken Kaumeyer demonstrates his 1926 Elto Ruddertwin outboard motor during the Antique Boat and Marine Engine Show in May. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Waterfront activities in and around the Boat Basin. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Janet Dalton of the Calvert Spinners and Weavers demonstrates her skill. (Photo by Bob Hall)

Captain Rachel Dean of Solomons Island Heritage Tours provides Maritime Festival visitors a close-up view of some of the Patuxent’s critters. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

David Barrett demonstrates waterfowl calls. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Mount Zion Male Chorus kicked off the Maritime Festival with gospel music at the Corbin Pavilion. (Photo by Bob Hall)
Activities & Events

CMM in the Community

As part of the museum’s community outreach effort, Rita Colwell gave a talk on the dangers of Vibrio vulnificus bacteria in the Chesapeake Bay in the Harms Gallery. (Photo by Kent Mountford)

The Calvert County Sheriff’s Office held the Special Olympics Torch Run at the museum on June 3. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

The Tri-County Council’s annual Job Fair was hosted at the museum on June 20. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Mark Curtis of Calvert County’s Technology Services Department is recognized as Calvert County June Employee of the Month for his work assisting the museum’s Exhibits staff in selecting, purchasing, and installing video equipment in the Harms Gallery. (Photo by Jessica Requilman)

“Lexington Park Live!” A two-week flurry of activity by local artists and a wide array of community volunteers reproduced the design by Lyn Wescoe on the rear of Bank Square Building. For more information, click on: https://lexleader.net/st-marys-cdc-completes-lexington-park-live-mural/

Former curator Jim Langley volunteered to repaint the Seahorse by the Bay sculpture on display at the Solomons Visitor Center.
Activities & Events

Kenneth Ritchey and sons try out the weekend rowing activity in the museum’s boat basin. (Photo by Ashley Gleisner Ritchey)

Construction of a long anticipated addition to the Woodworking and Model Making Shop began in June. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Ann Puppa and Al Smith reset a prism in the Drum Point Lighthouse’s Fresnel lens when the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society volunteered in May. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Bluegrass Fusion entertained in April and Some Assembly took the stage in June. (Photos by Sherrod Sturrock)

Crew and volunteers re-ballasted the Dee of St. Mary’s after her haul-out this Spring. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Exhibit Interpreters Coby Treadway and Kate Dumhart portrayed lighthouse keeper William Goeshy and wife Beatrice during Spring Break in April. (Photo by Rob Hurry)
Performing as part of the Road Scholar Summer Music Series, guests enjoyed Janie Meneely and Rob van Sante. (Photo by Sherrod Sturrock)

Steve Grimes picked the winning ticket for the handcrafted acoustic guitar donated by Eastman Guitars to support the Maritime Performance Series. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

CMM Otter takes the helm of the Dee of St. Mary’s. (Photo by Corinne Rink)

Teachers from the Jason Learning National Conference came to CMM for a full day field experience with paleontology on the Dee. (Photo by Jim Black)

Steve Grimes picked the winning ticket for the handcrafted acoustic guitar donated by Eastman Guitars to support the Maritime Performance Series. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

The Dee of St. Mary’s sailed to St. Mary’s College to help celebrate SMC Alumni weekend. The Dee docked within sight of 1400-1600 alumni and guests. It was a wonderful opportunity for the crew and good outreach for the museum. (Photo by Bob White)

John Cook, right, invited staff and Patuxent Small Craft Guild members to visit his Hollywood home in June where he is building a log racing canoe. (Photo by Rob Hurry)
Recently along the cliffs, avocational paleontologists Pat Gotsis and Daryl Serafin spotted some unusual bones near Chesapeake Beach. Although it was Memorial Day weekend, the entire paleo crew joined in to investigate what turned out to be the bones of an extinct leatherback sea turtle, *Psephophorus calvertensis*. Standing almost vertically in the slump pile was a boulder of sediment preserving an articulated section of the sea turtle’s carapace.

The team was able to quickly jacket the articulated remains of the sea turtle and bring the fossil back to the museum. Currently, one of our fossil lab volunteers, Christa Conant, is preparing the fossil by gently removing the matrix surrounding the articulated carapace pieces. Unlike most modern sea turtles, leatherback sea turtles do not have broad carapace plates, but rather puzzle piece-like bones which are easily disarticulated. Christa’s task is not unlike piecing a large jigsaw puzzle together; it requires enormous patience and skill. You can see her progress in the museum’s Fossil Prep Lab.

The presence of leatherback sea turtles in the Calvert Cliffs is very rare, making this find even more unique. We plan to survey the area again for more pieces of the turtle within the coming weeks, and hopefully find the “holy grail” an articulated skull from this leatherback sea turtle.
Volunteer Spotlight  By Sherry Reid, Volunteer & Events Coordinator

On Friday, June 9, CMM celebrated our 2016 Group Achievement Award winners. The staff voted the Waterside Concert Volunteers as the winners of the award and all were invited to bring their families with them to get a chance to experience everything the museum has to offer. The volunteers enjoyed an open house complete with free Tennison cruises, light appetizers, raffles, and souvenir cups commemorating the 2016 concert season. It was great to get an opportunity to thank these special volunteers for all they do to make the CMM Waterside Concert Series run smoothly. It wouldn't happen without each and every one of them.

Scholarship award winners Drew Mason, Whitney Jefferson, Sydney Goodrich, and Aimee Beardmore with the Otter. Not pictured is Shayna Zabiegalski. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

On Friday, June 16, the Volunteer Council held a ceremony to award 2017 scholarships to five deserving young volunteers. Each recipient was awarded a $750 scholarship to be used for their continuing education expenses. Congratulations to Aimee Beardmore, Sydney Goodrich, Whitney Jefferson, Drew Mason, and Shayna Zabiegalski for receiving the scholarship and thank you for being part of the CMM volunteer family.

Cup wrap designed by Traci Cimini.

2017 Cruise Information

- **Dee of St. Mary’s Public Sails**: 2-hour public sail aboard the historic skipjack Dee of St. Mary’s, departing on select Saturdays from the Calvert Marine Museum dock at 2:30 p.m.: July 29, August 26, and September 30.

- **Historic Sunset Supper Cruises**: Climb aboard the Wm. B. Tennison for a 90-minute cruise through history. Coby Treadway, historian and museum educator, will share fascinating facts about Solomons, the WWII Amphibious Training Base, and Solomons’ rich tradition of boat building. Light supper by No Thyme to Cook. Fee is $50 per person. Saturdays, August 5 and September 2.

- **Lighthouse Adventure Cruises** aboard a private charter vessel. The cost is $130 for a day-long trip; museum members pay $120.

  On **July 15** and **September 23**, **Northern route**: Cove Point, Thomas Point, Sandy Point, Bloody Point, and Sharps Island Lighthouses. Lunch is at Kentmoor Restaurant on Kent Island.

  On **August 19**, **Southern route**: Point No Point, Point Lookout, Smith Point, Solomons Lump and Hooper Island Lighthouses. Lunch is on Smith Island.

Call 410-326-2042, ext. 41 for more information or to reserve all cruises and sails.

2017-2018 Lecture Series

- **AT THE WATER’S EDGE**, a series of talks exploring local waterfront recreation in the early 20th century.

  Sponsored by Calvert Marine Museum, Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum, Bayside History Museum, Calvert Library, and the Calvert County Historical Society.

  - **African American Leisure Destinations Around Washington, D.C.** presented by Patsy Mose Fletcher. Thursday, September 14, at 7 p.m. at the Calvert Marine Museum.

    REPEATED Sunday, September 17, at 3 p.m. at the Chesapeake Beach Town Hall.

  - **A Day at Chesapeake Beach Park, 1946-1972** presented by Joan Kilmon. Thursday, October 19, at 7 p.m. at the Calvert Marine Museum.

    REPEATED Sunday, November 12, at 2 p.m. at the North Beach Town Hall.

- **Where Did We Stay?: Boarding Houses and Inns 1890 to 1950** presented by Grace Mary Brady. Thursday, November 9, at 7 p.m. at the Calvert Marine Museum.

    REPEATED Sunday, November 12, at 2 p.m. at the North Beach Town Hall.
2017 WATERSIDE CONCERTS
By Vanessa Gill, Director of Promotions

It's another big year for concerts at the Calvert Marine Museum this summer. We're mixing it up with rock legends, the male country vocalist of the year, and some local favorites on the rise. Our first concert of the season featured Steve Miller with Peter Frampton on June 28. Thomas Rhett, scheduled for July 14, is sold out. And tickets are selling fast for Brothers Osborne, so don't wait!

Summer Season:
July 14 – Thomas Rhett and The Cadillac Three  **SOLD OUT**
August 25 – Brothers Osborne, Tucker Beathard, and Robbie Boothe

The proceeds from all shows provide essential funding for the education and preservation efforts of the museum. Your ticket purchase helps us care for the otters, collect rare fossils, preserve historic boats, and provide all the great educational programs we offer. Your support makes a difference. We look forward to seeing you this summer at one of our great shows!

"Congratulations to you and your team, both present and past, for providing years of quality entertainment in Southern Maryland."
– Jeffrey Shepherd, General Manager
Holiday Inn Solomons

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Calvert Marine Museum. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon.

Same products, same prices, same service. Help support CMM by doing your shopping at:

smile.amazon.com

THANK YOU!

THE MUSEUM STORE

Let's have some fun this summer!
By Maureen Baughman, Director of Retail Operations

The store is bursting with wonderful new books and activities for children, stunning new jewelry, clothing, home décor, beautiful cards, plus plenty of gifts, big and small, for every occasion.

Did you know that we gift wrap for free?
All of the store proceeds support the programs and projects at the museum.

Discover YOUR Museum Store! 🎁

These backpacks are a scream!

The store is full of beautiful gift ideas.

Here’s an easy way to support the Museum.

AmazonSmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Calvert Marine Museum. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon.

Same products, same prices, same service. Help support CMM by doing your shopping at:

smile.amazon.com

THANK YOU!
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Lisa Howard, Membership and Development Associate

Don’t Forget to Renew Your Membership!

Museum members are the backbone of our operation. Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you this summer at one of our many events, or at one of the unforgettable Waterside concerts this summer. Keep an eye out for your membership renewal notice. We don’t want to lose touch.

27th Annual Bugeye Ball — A Huge Success

It was an Evening of Enchantment at the 27th Bugeye Ball held at the museum on Saturday, April 1. More than 380 guests were in attendance, which was the most ever for a Bugeye Ball. The event raised over $65,000 with all proceeds supporting the restoration of the historic Drum Point Lighthouse.

Delicious cuisine was provided by Ken Upton of Ken’s Creative Kitchen, music by Playlist had guests dancing the night away, casino entertainment was provided by Entertainment Avenue, and Top Hat Party Design of Huntingtown, Maryland, generously helped create the ambience for the evening.

Thank you to Bugeye Ball chairperson Eileen Bildman and all of the sponsors and attendees for making this exciting evening one that will not be soon forgotten.

Mark your calendars for April 21, 2018 for the 28th annual Bugeye Ball — we would love to have you join us!

A Huge Thank You to all of our Bugeye Ball Sponsors!


Members’ Trip

On Sunday, March 26, CMM members rode a luxury charter bus to Old Town Alexandria and the Alexandria waterfront. After embarking on the Potomac Riverboat tour line, members enjoyed a two-hour narrated water cruise that highlighted historic sites such as the Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and the Memorial Bridge between the historic seaports of Old Town Alexandria and Georgetown.

Following the cruise, members had some time on their own to enjoy the many delights of Old Town Alexandria.

Looking for Ideas!

Due to the overwhelming popularity of recent members’ trips, the Membership Department is considering adding a few more trips to our yearly calendar. Where would YOU like to visit? Please email Lisa Howard at howardl@co.cal.md.us with your ideas. Hope to see you on one of our trips soon!

(Photos by Tim Reese)
A short walk through the museum shows the dramatic results of what is possible with the generosity of the community. We pride ourselves with being good stewards of your donations by utilizing funds in ways that create a lasting impact. You can ensure that the museum continues for generations by including the museum in your financial plans.

Do you have to take a Required Minimum Distribution, or RMD, from your IRA? Did you know that you can donate your RMD to the museum and have it count as your Required Minimum Distribution for the year? Retirees can give up to $100,000 to charity tax-free from an IRA. Making a tax-free transfer also keeps the money out of your adjusted gross income.

Another excellent way to make a gift to the museum is by donating appreciated stocks. When you donate an appreciated stock, you can take a tax deduction for the appreciated amount of the stock. The key here is to give away a property that you have owned for more than a year. You get a twoffer tax break. First, you avoid any capital gains tax on the donated asset's appreciation. Second, if you itemize you can deduct the asset's market value at the time of the donation.

A gift in your estate plan will leave a lasting legacy. Think beyond cash — you can leave stocks, real estate, insurance policies and personal property to CMM. You can include Calvert Marine Museum as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, pension plan, or IRA. Do you have a current will or trust that reflects your charitable objectives?

Please consult with your financial, tax, or legal advisors to determine what is most beneficial or appropriate for you. If you have questions, or would like to speak with somebody about a potential donation, please call Pam Paterson at 410-326-2042, ext. 13.

By Pam Paterson, Director of Philanthropy

Easy Ways You Can Make a Difference

Calvert Marine Museum has received notification that we have been approved to participate in the 2018 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Our number is 21846. Thank you!

OTTER DONOR CELEBRATION HELD APRIL 11

On Tuesday, April 11, Calvert Marine Museum held a special celebration to recognize donors who supported the renovation of the River Otter Exhibit. During the event, Director Sherrod Sturrock stated that in 2016, the Calvert County Commissioners provided $35,000 in the capital improvements budget to renovate the museum's otter enclosure. When the project bids came in at over $100,000, generous donors stepped up to provide an additional $72,750 in private funding. Sturrock thanked all of the donors for coming together to form the wonderful public/private partnership that made this new habitat possible. Supporters include the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners, the Stanley and Barbara Benning Endowment, the Bildman/Romero Family, Liz and George Halvosa, Marianne Harms, the N. M. Morris Family Foundation, John and Wendy Peters, and Nancy K. Wieck and her granddaughters Michaela and Erica.

Sturrock recognized Estuarine Biology Curator David Moyer for spearheading the project to enable both a better environment for the animals and a better viewing experience for the visitors. Moyer added that thanks to generous donors, CMM now has two otter cameras, so people around the world can see the otters frolicking in their new home. Teachers have reported that their classrooms enjoy watching the museum's two otters, Chumley and Chessie-Grace, plus their third furry friend, Calvert, who arrived in February.

Commissioner President Tom Hejl, who attended the celebration with Commissioners Evan Slaughenhaupt and Mike Hart, thanked the donors for making the expanded and improved exhibit possible. Hejl praised the dedicated staff for making the museum a world-class destination for visitors.